

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the subject patent application.

Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently amended). A lubricating deodorant for ostomy pouches comprising an aqueous solution containing both a water-soluble lubricating agent capable of wetting and clinging to interior wall surfaces of polymeric film materials of the pouch and a compatible water-soluble complexing agent capable of complexing with and neutralizing the odor-causing molecules of fecal matter.

2 (Original). The lubricating deodorant of claim 1 in which said complexing agent is also a surfactant that enhances the ability of said lubricating agent to wet the interior surfaces of an ostomy pouch.

3 (Original). The lubricating deodorant of claim 2 in which there is at least one other surfactant in said aqueous solution other than said complexing agent.

4 (Original). The lubricating deodorant of claims 1, 2 or 3 in which said lubricating agent is cellulosic.

5 (Original). The lubricating deodorant of claim 4 in which said cellulosic lubricating agent is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose and hydroxypropylcellulose, and combinations thereof.

6 (Withdrawn). The lubricating deodorant of claims 1, 2 or 3 in which said lubricating agent is a hydrophilic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyethylene oxide, polymeric ethers, polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, hydrophilic colloids and their derivatives, synthetic polymers, polyols, carbomers, and their combinations.

7 (Original). The lubricating deodorant of claims 1, 2 or 3 in which said water-soluble complexing agent is selected from the group consisting of n-ethyl-n-soya-morpholinium ethosulfate, copper citrate, and vegetable protein extract.

8 (Original). The lubricating deodorant of claims 1, 2 or 3 in which said solution contains a pH adjuster or buffer for maintaining said solution at a substantially neutral pH.

9 (Original). The lubricating deodorant of claims 1, 2 or 3 in which said lubricating agent and said complexing agent have percentages of total solution weight of about 0.1 to 5.0 percent and about 0.2 to 7 percent, respectively.

10 (Original). A method for treating the interior of an ostomy pouch for simultaneously lubricating the interior surfaces thereof and providing an agent for neutralizing fecal odors developed in the pouch, comprising the steps of introducing into the pouch prior to use thereof a quantity of a lubricating deodorant in the form of an aqueous solution containing both a water-soluble lubricating agent and a water-soluble complexing agent capable of complexing with and neutralizing the odor-causing molecules of fecal matter, and then pressing and squeezing the walls of the pouch to distribute said lubricating deodorant solution throughout the pouch and into full contact with the interior surfaces thereof.

11 (Original). The method of claim 10 in which the amount of lubricating deodorant introduced into said pouch is within the range of about 3 to 10 ml.

12 (Original). The method of claim 11 in which the complexing agent of said lubricating deodorant is also a surfactant that enhances the ability of said lubricating agent to wet the interior surfaces of said ostomy pouch.

13 (Original). The method of claims 10 or 11 in which said lubricating agent is cellulosic.

14 (Original). The method of claims 10 or 11 in which said lubricating agent and said complexing agent have percentages of total solution weight of about 0.1 to 5.0 percent and about 0.2 to 7 percent, respectively.